

Message Text

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16

ACTION EA-09

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INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR CH GW UR

SUBJECT: WEST GERMAN CHANCELLOR WINDS UP CHINA VISIT

REF: HONG KONG 12942

SUMMARY: PEKING PROBABLY SHARES THE WEST GERMAN CHANCELLOR'S ESPOUSED VIEW THAT HIS VISIT TO CHINA AND TALKS WITH CHINESE LEADERS WAS A "SUCCESSFUL ONE". THERE HAS BEEN NO JOINT COMMUNIQUE BUT THE TWO COUNTRIES HAVE REACHED AND/OR SIGNED AGREEMENTS WHICH WILL SERVE TO STRENGTHEN BILATERAL RELATIONS. ADDITIONALLY, THE CHANCELLOR'S VISIT OCCASIONED ONE OF CHINA'S MOST HIGH-LEVEL AND AUTHORITY STATEMENTS IN SUPPORT OF EUROPEAN UNITY. FINALLY, THE CHINESE HONORED THE WEST GERMAN STATESMAN WITH A VISIT TO SINKIANG, THE FIRST BY A VISITING WESTERN HEAD OF STATE. END SUMMARY.

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1. WEST GERMAN CHANCELLOR HELMUT SCHMIDT WOUND UP

HIS OCTOBER 29-NOVEMBER 2 VISIT TO CHINA WITHOUT A JOINT COMMUNIQUE TO MARK ITS CONCLUSION. HOWEVER, PRIOR TO DEPARTING PEKING, AT AN OCTOBER 31 PRESS CONFERENCE THE CHANCELLOR DESCRIBED HIS VISIT AND TALKS WITH CHINESE LEADERS AS " VERY SUCCESSFUL" SCHMIDT, WHO MET WITH CHAIRMAN MAO ON OCTOBER 30 AND HELD A SERIES OF MEETINGS WITH SENIOR VICE-PREMIER TENG SHIAO-PING, CHARACTERIZED HIS TALKS WITH THE CHINESE LEADERS AS "FRIENDLY AND CANDID" WITH CHINA AND WEST GERMANY FAR APART ON THE SENSITIVE ISSUE OF DETENTE WITH THE SOVIETS (REFTEL), THE CHANCELLOR NOTED THAT NEITHER SIDE HAD "SOUGHT TO IMPOSE ITS VIEW ON THE OTHER".

2. PEKING PROBABLY SHARES THE SCHMIDT VIEWS, MOREOVER, DURING THE VISIT TENG AND SCHMIDT WITNESSED THE CONCLUSION OF A NUMBER OF AGREEMENTS WHICH SHOULD SERVE TO STRENGTHEN BILATERAL TIES. ON OCTOBER 31, MARITIME AND CIVIL AVIATION AGREEMENTS WERE SIGNED AND LETTERS ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A MIXED COMMITTEE FOR THE PROMOTION OF ECONOMIC AND TRADE RELATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES ALSO WERE EXCHANGED. AT HIS RETURN BANQUET IN PEKING, THE CHANCELLOR NOTED THAT BOTH COUNTRIES HAD AGREED TO INTENSIFY THE EXCHANGE OF VIEWS IN THE POLITICAL FIELD AND REACHED AGREEMENT IN PRINCIPLE ON THE STRENGTHENING OF CULTURAL COOPERATION.

3. THE VISIT ALSO WAS NOTABLE FOR OCCASIONING ONE OF THE PRC'S HIGHEST LEVEL AND MOST AUTHORATIVE STATEMENTS TO DATE IN SUPPORT OF EUROPEAN UNITY. AT THE SCHMIDT RETURN BANQUET, TENG NOT ONLY PROPOSED A TOAST TO EUROPE'S UNITY AND GROWING STRENGTH, BUT DECLARED THAT CHINA CONSIDERS EUROPEAN UNITY "A MATTER OF GREAT IMPORTANCE" AND " A DEMAND OF HISTORY", IN SCARELY VEILED CRITICISM OF THE SOVIETS, HE ADDED THAT "UNITY IS STRENGTH WHILE SEPARATION INVITES BULLYING". AND CLAIMED THAT IT IS THE "HEGEMONISTS WHO ARE OPPOSED TO EUROPEAN UNITY".

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4. IN NANKING, SCHMIDT AND NPC VICE-CHAIRMAN ULANFU, WHO ACCOMPANIED THE CHANCELLOR ON VISITS OUTSIDE THE CAPITAL, ALSO HEARD THE KANGSU PROVINCIAL REVOLUTIONARY COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN PENG CHUNG TOAST WEST GERMAN FRIENDSHIP AND EXPRESS APPRECIATION AND "SUPPORT FOR THEIR STRUGGLE AGAINST HEGEMONISM AND THEIR JUST ASPIRATION FOR THE UNIFICATION OF THE GERMAN NATION".

5. THE CHANCELLOR WOUND UP HIS VISIT WITH A TRIP TO
CHINA'S STRATEGIC SINKIANG PROVINCE. FOR THE FIRST
WESTERN CHIEF OF STATE TO VISIT THERE, URUMCHI PROVIDED
A WARM WELCOMECOMPLETewith DANCING GIRLS, A VISIT
TO AN EXHIBITION ON THE PROVINCES'S PROGRESS AND
ACHIEVEMENTS, AND A FINAL BANQUET.
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